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REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 17, 2008. Claims 1-46 and 49-52 were pending, with claims 47 and 48 having previously been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, 20, 23, 28, 31 and 35 have been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter, claims 39-46 and 49 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 53-55 have been added. Claims 1-38 and 49-55 would be pending upon entry of this Amendment, with claims 1, 5, 9, 12, 15, 20, 23, 28, 31 and 35 being in independent form.

Claims 1-46 and 49-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,665,425 to Sampath et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,181,886 to Hockey et al and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,405,178 to Manchala et al.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is allowable over the cited art, for at least the reason that the cited art does not disclose or suggest the aspects of the present application of (a) analyzing a received email for receipt acknowledgement information indicating acknowledgement of receipt of the order, and response information responding to the order, and (b) displaying a text message of the received email corresponding to the receipt acknowledgement information, (c) stopping display of the receipt acknowledgement information after transmission of the second email indicating that the replenishment of the consumable product (independent claims 1, 9, 15, 23 and 31) or repair of the maintenance component (independent claims 5, 12, 20, 28 and 35) has been completed has been completed, to the manager, and (d) displaying that the consumable product was replenished (independent claims 1, 9, 15, 23 and 31) or the maintenance component has been repaired (independent claims 5, 12, 20, 28 and 35).

Sampath and Hockey have been discussed at length in the record, and as acknowledged in the

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Office Action, do not disclose or suggest sending a first E-mail communicating a request for supplying the consumable product or for repair service, including the terminal identification information of the communications terminal apparatus and order details information, to a manager E-mail address, the request sent automatically to the manager E-mail address (i) including an order form for sending to the service depot to order the consumable product or repair service and (ii) identifying the registered service depot address of the service depot to which the order form is to be sent.

Further, Sampath and Hockey do not disclose or suggest the above-mentioned aspects (a) through (d) of the present application.

Manchala, as understood by Applicant, proposes an automated electronic purchasing system. In the system proposed by Manchala, a system administrator specifies constraints which the system follows to purchase consumables automatically when the need arises. The system administrator may also specify selected consumables that will be ordered manually by a person without benefit of an electronic commerce system.

However, Manchala, like Sampath and Hockey, does not disclose or suggest the above-mentioned aspects of the present application of (a) analyzing a received email for receipt acknowledgement information indicating acknowledgement of receipt of the order, and response information responding to the order, and (b) displaying a text message of the received email corresponding to the receipt acknowledgement information, (c) stopping display of the receipt acknowledgement information after transmission of the second email indicating that the replenishment of the consumable product (independent claims 1, 9, 15, 23 and 31) or repair of the maintenance component (independent claims 5, 12, 20, 28 and 35) has been completed has been completed, to the manager, and (d) displaying that the consumable product was replenished

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(independent claims 1, 9, 15, 23 and 31) or the maintenance component has been repaired (independent claims 5, 12, 20, 28 and 35).


Applicant submits that the cited art, even when considered along with common sense and common knowledge to one skilled in the art, does **NOT** render unpatentable the above-mentioned aspects of the present application.

In view of the remarks hereinabove, applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and earnestly solicits the allowance of the application.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any required fees in connection with this amendment, and to credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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